

Message Text

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PASS TO HOHMAN/HEW

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SUBJ: CALIFANO VISIT - FRIULI DINNER

REF: STATE 65234

1. ON MAY 5, 1978, THE QTE FOGOLAR FURLAN UNQTE, AN ASSOCIATION OF FRIULANI RESIDENT IN ROME, IS COMMEMORATING THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEVASTING EARTHQUAKES OF 1976. ON THAT OCCASION THE ASSOCIATION IS HOSTING A DINNER AT THE PALAZZO BARBERINI TO WHICH, IN ADDITION TO ITS MEMBERSHIP (WHICH INCLUDES A NUMBER OF DISTINGUISHED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PROFESSIONALS AND BUSINESSMEN), WILL BE INVITED PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI, THE MAYOR OF ROME (GIULIO CARLO ARGAN), AMBASSADOR AND MRS. GARDNER AS WELL AS THE SECRETARY. MEMBERS OF THE SECRETARY'S PARTY NOTIFIED IN STATE 65234, MESSRS. BELL AND JOHNS, AND MISS BACKUS, WILL ALSO BE INVITED. IN THE COURSE OF THIS COMMEMORATION THE FOLLOWING QTE EVENTS UNQTE WILL OCCUR:

1. THE PRESENTATION OF A LARGE SILVER MEDAL TO SECRETARY CALIFANO, FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE PRESIDENT, INSCRIBED QTE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH THE GRATITUDE OF THE PEOPLE OF FRIULI UNQTE.

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2. THE PRESENTATION OF A SILVER MEDAL TO AMBASSADOR GARDNER, SIMILARLY INSCRIBED, WHICH MAY BE SUITABLY PLACED IN THE EMBASSY.

3. THE PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION TO THE HON. SCOVACRICCHI, DEPUTY FROM THE FRIULI, BY AMBASSADOR GARDNER IN RECOGNITION OF HIS COOPERATION IN LAUNCHING THE

U.S. PARTICIPATION IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE FRIULI.

4. THE PRESENTATION BY THE FOGOLAR FURLAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRIULI REGION OF A CHECK FOR LIRA 100 MILLION COLLECTED AMONG THE FRIULANI RESIDENT IN ROME.

2. AMBASSADOR GARDNER WILL BE EXPECTED TO MAKE A BRIEF SPEECH. SECRETARY CALIFANO SHOULD MAKE SOME BRIEF REMARKS ON ACCEPTANCE OF THE MEDAL ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE U.S.

3. OTHER SPEAKERS WILL LIKELY BE THE PRESIDENT OF FOGOLAR FURLAN AND PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI. INEVITABLY THERE WILL BE BRIEF REMARKS OF APPRECIATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REGION OF FRIULI AND THE HON. SCOVACRICCHI. THE INTENT OF ORGANIZERS IS TO KEEP THE SPEECHMAKING TO A MINIMUM.

4. THERE FOLLOW SOME SUGGESTED REMARKS FOR THE SECRETARY AFTER PRESENTATION OF THE MEDAL:

QTE MR. PRIME MINISTER, ETC (TO BE SUPPLIED)

I AM HONORED TO BE WITH YOU TONIGHT AND TO ACCEPT ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES THIS MAGNIFICENT MEDALLION FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE FRIULI. THIS MEDALLION AND THIS OCCASION MARK THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE EARTHQUAKE WHICH BROUGHT SUCH TERRIBLE DESTRUCTION INTO THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE FRIULI AND BROUGHT DEATH TO SO MANY OF THEIR LOVED ONES. WE ARE HERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS EVENING BOTH TO COMMEMORATE AND TO CELEBRATE

-- TO COMMEMORATE THE TRAGEDY THAT STRUCK THE PEOPLE OF FRIULI;

-- AND TO CELEBRATE THE INDOMITABLE WILL OF THE PEOPLE OF FRIULI WHOSE SPIRIT AND INDUSTRY HAVE ENABLED THEM TO TRIUMPH OVER THE DEVASTATION INFLICTED BY THE FORCES OF NATURE.

WE AMERICANS ARE ESPECIALLY PROUD THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOME DEGREE IN THE GREAT ENTERPRISE OF RECONSTRUCTION IN THE FRIULI. THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED TO COME TO THE ASSISTANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF DISASTERS EVERYWHERE. BUT HERE THERE IS MORE TO IT THAN THAT. THE PROJECTS MADE POSSIBLE BY FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR SCHOOLS FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE FRIULI AND HOMES FOR ITS ELDERLY ARE IN A SMALL MEASURE, AND ONLY IN A SMALL MEASURE, THE TOKEN OF OUR GRATITUDE FOR THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH THE FRIULI AND THE SONS OF THE FRIULI WHO EMIGRATED TO THE UNITED STATES HAVE MADE TO ENRICHING OUR NATIONAL LIFE.

I ACCEPT THIS MEDALLION WITH THAT SENSE OF GRATITUDE. AND

IT IS IN RECOGNITION OF THE TIES THAT BIND OUR TWO NATIONS
TOGETHER, THE TIES OF BLOOD AND COMMON HERITAGE, THAT I WILL
CONVEY TO PRESIDENT CARTER THE VERY MOVING SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED
HERE THIS EVENING. UNQTE.GARDNER

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